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HOUSE RESOLUTION 405  
By Pinion

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize John Wade Tucker, the winningest football coach in Milan High School and Tennessee history.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those athletes and coaches who have performed their duties with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm and, through their magnificent exploits, have brought honor to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable citizen is John Wade Tucker, who is the winningest football coach in Milan High School and Tennessee history; and

WHEREAS, during his forty-three year career at seven schools, Coach Tucker compiled 332 wins, 132 loss, and 10 ties for a remarkable .711 winning percentage; his 474 games included records of 3-5-3 at Parsons, 11-15-2 at Tiptonville, 22-26-2 at Hoenwald, 35-12-2 at Dickson, 225-61-2 at Milan, 4-6 at Gibson County, and 32-7 at Humboldt; and

WHEREAS, he cemented his place in Tennessee history during the 1997 season when he became Tennessee's winningest coach before taking a well-deserved retirement; and

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WHEREAS, his teams achieved unsurpassed success, none more than his squads at Milan; from 1969 until 1993, Milan achieved a .785 winning percentage with John Wade Tucker at the helm; and

WHEREAS, during his twenty-five years there, Coach Tucker and the mighty Bulldogs built a football dynasty; they won state championships in 1971 and 1977, were runner-up in 1993, reached the state semi-finals in 1974, 1984, and 1988, claimed sixteen district or region titles, completed eight undefeated seasons, and were twice champions of the Jaycee Bowl; and

WHEREAS, this living legend won more games at Milan than twenty other coaches combined between 1930 and 1997; among his many records at the school are 25 years as coach, 288 games coached, 225 wins, and 61 losses; and

WHEREAS, his quarter century at the school was the longest continuous tenure of any coach in Milan athletics history; and

WHEREAS, since beginning his coaching career at Parsons in 1955, Coach Tucker has won much acclaim for his unsurpassed skill as a teacher of sport, and his name has become virtually synonymous with excellence; and

WHEREAS, long known in the football community for his wisdom and leadership, Coach Tucker earned the respect and admiration of his peers and students alike for the unsurpassed quality of his service; and

WHEREAS, his professional accomplishments aside, Mr. Tucker is committed to maintaining the highest ideals of family and community values; he cherishes the love and companionship of his wife, Nancy, and he is the proud father of four children, Johnny Jr., Kathryn, Mike, and Paul; and

WHEREAS, throughout his outstanding career, John Wade Tucker demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate his student athletes to reach their potential; he exemplifies the unquestioned character and stalwart determination that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and commend John Wade Tucker for his honorable and astute service to the young athletes of this State and join with his family, friends, players, and fans in celebrating his status as Tennessee's winningest football coach.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish him much continued success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.